



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

DEC 04 2018

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Updated Priorities for IRIS Assessments

**FROM:** Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Ph.D.  
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for Science  
Office of Research and Development

**TO:** Assistant Administrators and Deputies

I am writing to update you on the input received by the Office of Research and Development on priorities for Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessments. We recently consolidated your input on high-priority assessment needs and presented this information to the Acting Administrator. Based on the input received, ORD will be proceeding with development of the following priority assessments:

Chemical	Requested Routes of Exposure and Scope	Sponsoring Office
Hexavalent Chromium	Oral and inhalation cancer and noncancer	OW, OLEM
Inorganic Arsenic	Oral and inhalation cancer and noncancer	OW, OLEM
Mercury salts	Oral and inhalation cancer and noncancer	OLEM
Methylmercury	Oral and inhalation noncancer	OLEM
PCBs	Oral and inhalation noncancer	OLEM
PFAS (PFBA, PFHxA, PFHxS, PFDA, PFNA)	Oral cancer and noncancer	OW
Vanadium	Oral cancer and noncancer	OW

I want to thank each of you for providing your updated priorities to ORD. This information will help ensure that the assessments developed will meet program office needs, and in a timeframe to meet your regulatory or decision-making context. As ORD reengages on the assessments listed above, we will be holding kick-off meetings with the sponsoring offices, as well as any other offices that may want to be aware of our efforts. These kick-off meetings will be critically important to confirming that all interested parties agree on the scope and approach being employed in the development of specific assessments.

Thank you again for your assistance in developing the refined list of priorities. We remain committed to ensuring IRIS Program activities are focused on the most important Agency needs. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

**CC:** Andrew Wheeler, Acting Administrator  
Henry Darwin, Associate Deputy Administrator and Chief of Operations  
David Dunlap, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Research  
and Development  
Regional Administrators and Deputies  
IRIS Points of Contact